

Specification Amendments

Please insert the following paragraph on page 1, after the title:

This application is a divisional of U.S. Serial No. 09/825,406, filed April 3, 2001, now allowed, the entire contents of which is hereby incorporated by reference into this application.

Please replace paragraph on page 11, lines 8-14 with the following amended paragraph:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE ACCOMPANYING DRAWINGS.

In the drawings accompanying this specification: **Figure 1** represents the absorption spectrum of the extract.

Figure 2 represents the absorption spectrum of methanolic extract partitioned with petroleum ether.

Figure 3 represents the IR spectra of crude methanolic extract.

~~Figure 4 represents~~ **Figures 4A-4B** represent the NMR spectra of crude methanolic extract.

Please replace paragraph on page 12, lines 1-7 with the following amended paragraph:

Example 2

The methanol extract prepared as shown in Example 1 was scanned from 260 nm to 550 nm and it showed a peak at 454 nm with shoulders at 435 nm and 480 nm (Fig. 1). The same methanolic extract as shown in Example 1 was partitioned with 10-ml petroleum ether and scanned from 260 to 550 nm in a UV-visible spectrometer. In petroleum ether, peaks at 448 nm with shoulders at 430 and 470 nm showed that it is a ~~carotenoid~~ carotenoid like compound (Fig. 2). IR and NMR spectra of crude methanolic extracts are given in Fig. 3 and 4 4A-4B respectively.